

Serial No. 10/725,132

February 15, 2006

Reply to the Notice of Allowance dated February 10, 2006

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**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please REPLACE the sixth full paragraph on page 6 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 4A – 4C illustrates a process of the steps of a resistance welding method according to another preferred embodiment of the present invention;

Please REPLACE the first paragraph on page 7 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 6A – 6D are a plan views illustrating a modifications of an arrangement of second welding electrodes according to preferred embodiments of the present invention;

Please REPLACE the second full paragraph on page 9 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Referring now to Figs. 3 to 6A, a method for bonding the lead wires to the external electrodes 17a, 17b, and 17c by resistance welding will be described in detail.

Please REPLACE the third full paragraph on page 9 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 3 to 6D are conceptual views of a resistance welding apparatus according to a preferred embodiment of the present invention. The resistance welding apparatus according to the present preferred embodiment of the present invention preferably includes a first welding electrode 1, second welding electrodes 2a and 2b, a welding power source 3, an inspection lead-wire chuck 4, current sensors 5a and 5b, and a determination unit 6.

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Please REPLACE the first full paragraph on page 11 of the Specification with the following amended paragraph:

Figs. 4A – 4C illustrates a process of welding a lead wire to one of the external electrodes of the variable resistor. In Figs. 4A – 4C, a main body 11 of the electronic component is defined as the rotor, the metal cover 24, the sliding contactors 15a, 15b, and 15c, and other components mounted to the casing 14, and a metal member 12 is defined as any one of the external electrodes 17a, 17b, and 17c.